



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Violet Varona-Lukens, Executive Officer  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
Los Angeles, California 90012

Chief Administrative Officer  
Chief Deputy County Counsel

At its meeting held November 9, 2004, the Board took the following action:

51-A

Supervisor Antonovich made the following statement:

“It has recently come to my attention that the Chief Administrative Officer’s Risk Management Unit is actively engaged in planning some proposals for significant policy changes. Of particular concern is the direct attempt by the Chief Administrative Officer’s Risk Management Unit to assume responsibility over ‘liability claims’, which the Risk Manager defines as both claims and lawsuits. They specifically seek to change the Los Angeles County Charter to assume this role.

“The information provided at a briefing given to staff from each Board Office, and subsequent information developed by efforts of my staff to gain a clearer understanding of the actual proposal, and the basis for the proposal, resulted in an even more ambiguous picture, which now requires a more definite explanation with clear and unequivocal language.

“Moreover, while it has been represented that the proposal is a collaborative effort by all the affected parties, specifically the Office of the County Counsel, the fact is that with the position of County Counsel currently unfilled, the discussions of such a significant undertaking remain highly questionable or, at the very least, premature. Additionally, key members of the County Counsel’s Office have been largely kept in the dark, with minimal regard to any and all of their concerns by the Chief Administrative Officer’s Risk Management Unit.”

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Therefore, on motion of Supervisor Antonovich, seconded by Supervisor Knabe, unanimously carried, Board took the following actions:

1. Instructed the Chief Administrative Officer to provide a report within one week which provides a clear and concise description, status and basis for the subject proposal by the Risk Management Unit to modify the Los Angeles County Charter and assume responsibility over claims and lawsuits; and
2. Made a finding that the aforementioned and all other significant policy items involving the management of the County Counsel's Office be held in abeyance until such time that a permanent County Counsel has been appointed.

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